

## SARAH CREEK

## CORRECTION

**Water body name:** Sarah Creek

**Survey date:** 4/21/2015

**Water body number:** 115-32-10250-2077-3159-4009

**Species & Lifestage:** COr, Kp

**Watershed:** Klehini Watershed

**MTR:** C028S053E **Quad:** Skagway B-4

**Findings:** Habitat biologist Gordon Willson-Naranjo and I accessed the cataloged upper extent of Sarah Creek via overland snowshoe. The upper reach is cataloged for chinook salmon presence only, however there is no nomination indicating such, nor did we sample any anadromous fish in this reach. Hiking down the creek, electrofishing along the way, we captured only Dolly Varden char. We came upon a barrier which we measured using an inclinometer and rangefinder. The barrier began gradually at a gradient of 15% over 90 feet, followed by subsequently steepening terrain with the majority of the cascade measuring at a 39% gradient over 135 feet with no resting places for fish. A 2014 field report by R2 Resource Consultants, Inc. also confirmed this to be a barrier to anadromous fish.

**Recommendations:** I recommend updating the cataloged length of the stream to reflect the field-verified route. Based on the Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Regulations, the 39% gradient over 135 feet constitutes a steep channel barrier. I recommend removing chinook salmon presence from this reach as there is no documentation they exist in this stream. I've attached nomination #07-840 as it indicates the addition of Kr. However, nothing in the actual document suggests chinook were present at the cataloged upper limit, or anywhere else in the stream. I have also attached the 2014 R2 field summary that reports no chinook salmon were observed in the system.

Table 1.–Sarah Creek Survey Data

Waypoint	Latitude	Longitude	Notes	Sample Effort	Sample Results
202	59.4290	-136.3633	Upper extent of Sarah Creek.		
203	59.4288	-136.3626	2 DV	EF	2 DV
204	59.4288	-136.3625	1 DV	EF	1 DV
205	59.4288	-136.3623	1 DV	EF	1 DV
206	59.4287	-136.3620	Absolutely crazy! 3 ft of snow on banks and LWD. We will find fish when it's safe.		
207	59.4287	-136.3618	1 DV	EF	1 DV
208	59.4286	-136.3592	Pic of crotch-deep snow		
209	59.4286	-136.3592	1 DV	EF	1 DV
210	59.4271	-136.3453	1 DV	EF	1 DV
211	59.4266	-136.3427	2 DV	EF	2 DV
212	59.4264	-136.3406	1 DV; visual, could not capture because it floated under the ice. 15% over 90 yards.		
213	59.4268	-136.3396	Gradient is 22% over 105 feet		
214	59.4270	-136.3390	Gradient increase possible barrier at high flows. 25% at 105 feet.		
215	59.4275	-136.3380	Top of barrier. Gradient is 39% over 135 feet with no resting pools for fish.		



Figure 1.—At the tree fringe on the upper reach of Sarah Creek.

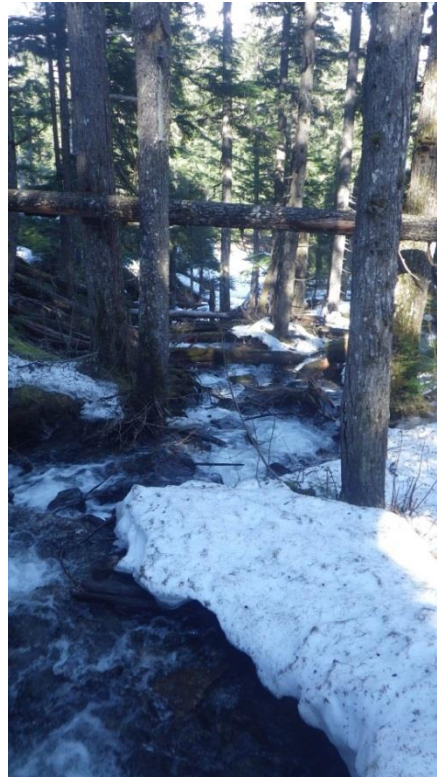


Figure 2.—Looking downstream from the top of the steep channel barrier on Sarah Creek.



Figure 3.—A 5' falls with no jump pool within the steep channel barrier on Sarah Creek.



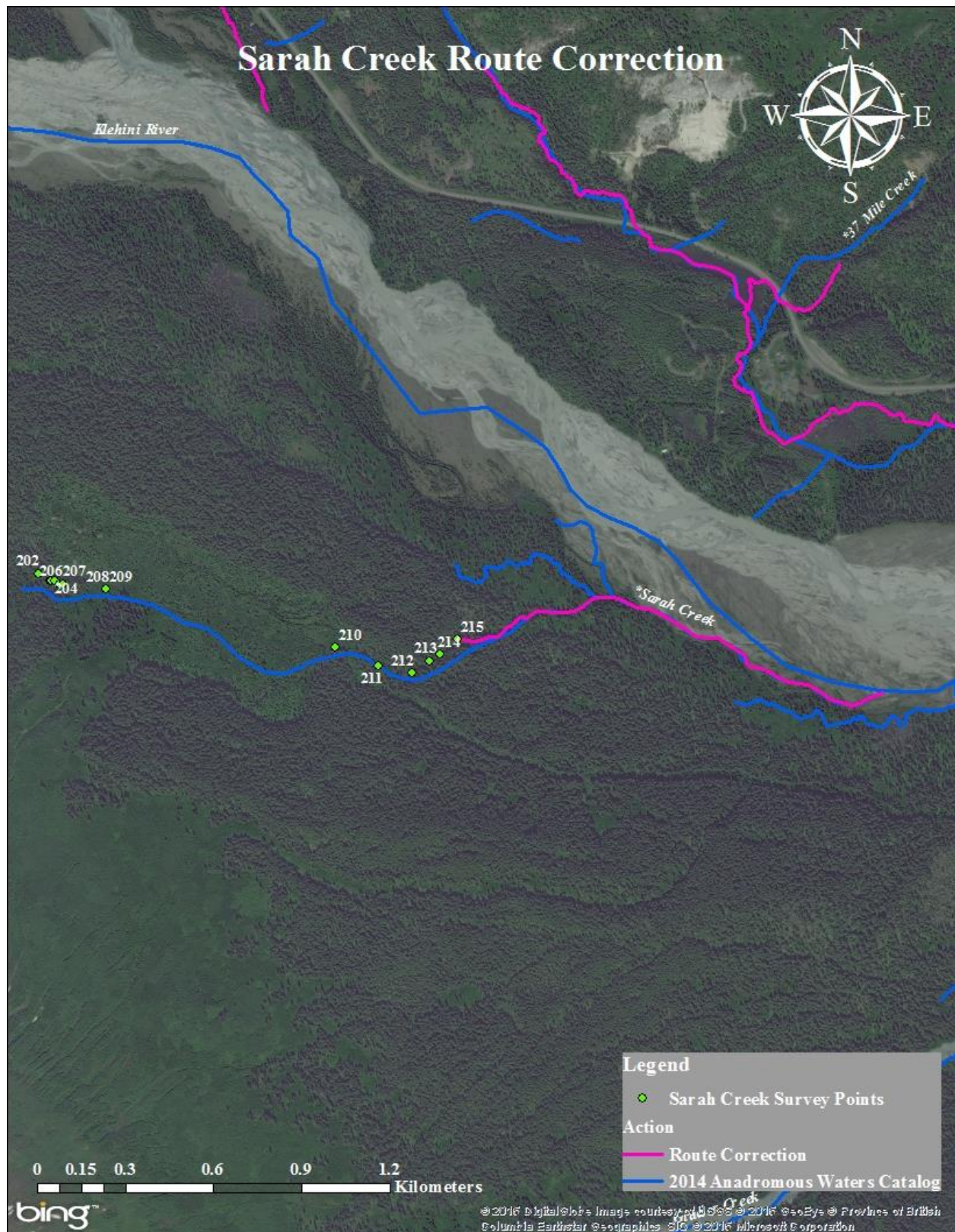


Figure 4: Sarah Creek route correction map.